

of the momentum that it helped create. Students are coming into the downtown area. People are coming into there from the region 100 miles around the area, and it's really caused the city of Huntsville to renovate and revise its downtown area. Business is coming back, and I think in terms of economic developments issues, it's accomplishing just what it should accomplish.

So I'm eager to defend this amendment and say that currently the \$200,000 that we've been able to achieve through the economic development initiative, through this committee, and I thank the chairman and the staff and the ranking member and the staff for considering this project, will go along with another \$8 million that will be raised from the community so that we can create exhibition space, so that we can create meeting space. This is not a routine museum expansion that this \$200,000 will go toward. It's a small amount of money that will be pooled with another amount of money to renovate a downtown area that is in much need of renovation.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, I just will close on this one, saying again this is one of many museums that we are funding here. We simply can't fund them all. At some point it would be nice to give the taxpayers a gift and actually say we're not going to fund a particular earmark. We did it a couple of weeks ago.

This is not an idle process. We've had one occasion already where I've come to offer an earmark, and the sponsor of the earmark beat me to the floor and offered an amendment to revoke his own earmark. So obviously there needed to be more vetting of that earmark. I would assume that there are others like it.

So this is a process we should go through. I would urge support of the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I don't want to get into the debate on this specific project, but I again want to simply note that I find it interesting that the gentleman from Arizona is questioning small economic development programs in other States when, in fact, as I said earlier, the second largest earmark in the history of the Congress is the Central Arizona Project, upon which we have already spent not \$4.3 million, but \$4.3 billion, total cost estimated to be \$5.6 billion.

And I also have in my hand, as a certain Senator from my own State used to say, 61 pages of military contracts that are let to firms in Arizona. We don't have in our State something like Fort Huachuca or Luke or Davis Air Force Base, and I'm sure that if we did,

we would be experiencing the benefit to our economy that the gentleman's State is experiencing.

But I wonder if the gentleman has any idea what the \$44,000 was spent on in a contract with Two Pals and a Gal?

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. I have no clue.

Mr. OBEY. I don't either. It would be interesting to find out. That's another expenditure in Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. If the gentleman would further yield for a minute, perhaps the gentleman wasn't on the floor last week. I actually challenged an earmark that was going largely to my own district.

Arizona is just like other States in this regard. I don't object to projects that go through the process. I assume that the Central Arizona Project had a hearing or two. It was authorized and went through the process. What I object to is the contemporary practice of earmarks.

Mr. OBEY. Taking back my time, I was here when we went through all of that with the Central Arizona Project, and I assure you that the project was not approved because of the merits. It was approved because of the persistence of the Arizona delegation, and if anyone thinks that a little politics didn't go into determining that \$4.5 billion project, I'd like to sell them a couple of bridges.

So, all I can say is it is fine for someone who comes from a district as prosperous as yours to belittle or question these modest economic development efforts that are being provided around the country in districts that have a per family income of \$8,000, \$9,000, \$10,000 less than yours. This is, after all, one country.

And just as I believe that the most fortunate human beings in this country ought to be willing to extend a helping hand for those who are least fortunate, I also think that those communities that are well off ought to be able to extend a helping hand to the communities that are less well off, and that certainly is the case with the number of the economic development projects that this committee is trying to fund, recognizing that we are, after all, all one country.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Chairman, just briefly in close, this is a modest economic development initiative. It's very appropriate under this account, and it will allow this museum project to revitalize an area of downtown that is in much need of revitalization.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The amendment was rejected.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FRANK OF MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 410. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement or enforce the requirement under section 12(c) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437j(c)); relating to community service).

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Chairman, I offer this on behalf of myself and our colleague from New York Mr. RANGEL, who, in fact, in a previous Congress in 2002, I believe, offered a similar amendment. It would suspend for a year, because we do this 1 year at a time, the work requirement in the public housing sector. We're talking about 8 hours a month.

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Chairman, I'm prepared to accept this amendment on the part of Mr. FRANK and Mr. RANGEL.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. I'm certainly prepared for it to be accepted.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Chairman, I have no objection. We have no objection. We accept the amendment.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time, and I will go make a great speech in my office.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. FLAKE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Hunting and Fishing Museum of Pennsylvania in Tionesta, Pennsylvania.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for "Department of Housing and Urban Development—Community Development Fund" (and specified for the Economic Development Initiative) is hereby reduced by \$100,000.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the